

REMARKS

1. Applicants filed U.S. patent application serial no. 09/452,573 on December 1, 1999.
2. During the prosecution of U.S. patent application serial no. 09/452,573, it was determined that it would be in Applicants' best interest to file a continuation application.
3. On December 8, 2003, Applicants' counsel prepared and filed a continuation application transmittal and filed that transmittal along with a 35 page specification, 11 pages of drawings, PTO-2038 in the amount of \$601.00, a fee transmittal, a request for a two month extension of time (for serial number 09/452,573), copy of declaration/power of attorney filed in parent application serial number 09/452,573 and a request for a personal interview to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The parent application serial number 09/452,573 was subsequently allowed to go abandoned and was deemed abandoned on April 5, 2004
4. As indicated on Applicants' transmittal form (copy attached) filed by Applicants' attorney on December 8, 2003, Applicants clearly intended to claim the benefit of the December 1, 1999 filing date of '573 application. Applicants' attorney inadvertently

failed to include a cross-reference to the parent '573 application in a preliminary amendment.

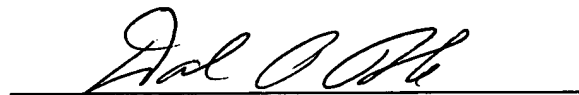
5. Applicants respectfully submit that the failure to cross-reference the '573 application was unintentional.

Enclosed herewith is a PTO-2038 authorizing a charge of \$ 1370.00 in payment of the fee for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(t)

Accordingly, the granting of this Petition and acceptance of the claim of priority is earnestly solicited.

Dated: 6/17/05

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Copy of Continuation transmittal,
PTO-2038 and postcard